

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-3. (Cancel)

4. (New) A method of maturing fish within a container which comprises the steps of

(a) providing a container which includes a discharge pipe and holes for the ingress of air,

(b) adding fish and water to said container and maturing said fish in said container, and

(c) removing matured fish and water from said container through said discharge pipe while supplying air to said container through said holes to prevent clogging of said discharge pipe.

5. (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said container is elongated.

6. (New) A method according to claim 5, wherein the holes of said container are aligned along at least one imaginary straight line.

7. (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said discharge pipe is connected to the bottom of said container.

8. (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said discharge pipe extends into said container to an inlet end above said bottom of said container.